



FREEDOM WATCH



July 20, 2002

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Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

Pentagon: al Qaeda suspects detained at sea

WASHINGTON — For the second time in a week, suspected al Qaeda members have been detained at sea after coalition warships stopped the boats carrying them. A French warship Wednesday night stopped a fast boat moving through the North Arabian Sea and detained two suspected al Qaeda members. They were transferred to the aircraft carrier USS George Washington for holding and initial questioning.

Stocks back to losing ways

NEW YORK — U.S. stock markets ended lower Thursday after a day of mixed corporate earnings and analyst interpretation of those earnings failed to attract buyers. The NASDAQ composite index closed down 40.30 to 1,356.95. The Dow Jones industrial average, a day removed from the end of its seven-session losing

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Suspected HAZMAT proves negative

By Capt. Timothy Beninato
28th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM AIRBASE, Afghanistan — U.S. Special Operations Forces, acting on intelligence from several sources, infiltrated and secured a small compound in the village of Hasarak located approximately 60 kilometers south of Kabul on July 10.

“Coalition forces suspected the

compound harbored a smuggler that dealt in dangerous materials and was strongly suspected to have ties to al Qaeda and Taliban elements,” said Army Col. Roger King, Combined Joint Task Force - 180 spokesman.

King said the alleged smuggler, along with two other associates, were taken under Coalition control without violence.

During the initial operation, Spe-

cial Operations Forces retrieved several block-shaped and paste-like materials. The materials were immediately sent to the International Security and Assistance Force Lab in Kabul for analysis where the possible presence of a biological agent was detected.

A subsequent and more detailed

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Fort Campbell unit teams with 82nd Airborne

Story & photo by Pfc.

Matthew Acosta

49th Public Affairs Detachment (Airborne)

KHANDAHAR AIR FIELD, Afghanistan — As the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) prepares to return to Fort Campbell, Ky., other soldiers from the division have just recently arrived in Khandahar.

Mechanics from Company B, 7th Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Aviation, arrived to support the 82nd Airborne Division in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

The 101st will provide the 82nd with CH-47 D Chinook helicopters, flight crews and the supporting maintenance teams supplementing the 82nd's airlift in the conflict.

“We are here to provide support for the flight



The floorpanels of an Army CH-47 D Chinook are removed by Pvt. Robert Shaffield, helicopter powertrain mechanic, 7th Bn., 101st Abn. Div. Aviation, during a phasing out to look for cracks in the airframe, corrosion or any foreign objects in the floor compartment that could cause problems.

crews and their aircraft while they're attached to the 82nd Airborne (Division), and we'll be here as long as we're needed,” said Sgt. Robert Eaton, helicopter power-train mechanic.

The maintenance crews will provide com-

plete round-the-clock service to the aircraft, seven days a week. The unit is capable of performing any repairs the aircraft could encounter in this hostile environment.

“We can do any type of repairs here in Khandahar, that we can

normally do in the rear at (Fort) Campbell,” said Staff Sgt. Mikeral Curry, squad leader and helicopter power-train mechanic. “We don't have all of the same equipment as back home, but we improvise. It

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analysis of the materials was conducted by a laboratory in the U.S. over the last few days which determined the materials did not contain any biological agents, King said.

U.S. forces returned to Hasarak on Tuesday looking for other significant materials and intelligence. A chemical unit was brought in as a part of the team and found additional suspicious materials and documents possibly having intelligence value.

"Analysis of that material has shown negative results for any hazardous material," said King. "The documents are currently under review by Coalition intelligence analysts."

HIND SIGHT

1871

British Columbia becomes the sixth Canadian province

1917

World War I draft lottery held; number 258 is drawn first

1969

Mankind lands on the Moon — Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin, Apollo 11

1985

Divers find wreck of Spanish galleon Atocha

1996

The 26th Olympic Summer games opens in Atlanta, Ga.

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just takes a little longer to get the job done."

Right now the unit is currently "phasing" an Army Ch-47 D Chinook helicopter.

After 200 hours of flight time, the aircraft will be (phased) disassembled and a complete cleaning and inspection of the parts and helicopter will be made, said Pfc. Thomas Combs, helicopter power-train mechanic.

"If any parts need to be serviced or replaced, they will get the attention needed prior to the reassembly of the craft," Combs added.

The dust and harsh environment make the helicopter maintenance more critical than normal, so careful attention must be paid while inspecting the parts, said Pfc. Luis Rodonez, helicopter power-train mechanic.

"Dust can cover cracks that may have developed and lead to overlooked problem areas," Rodonez added.

Because of the wide range of temperature between day and night, special attention must also be paid to the seals and packings of the flight control hydraulic lines.

"The constant heating and cooling of the helicopter due to this environment causes the (hydraulic) seals and packings on the flight controls to wear out quicker than usual," said Staff Sgt. Stephen Zimmer, helicopter power-train mechanic and floor supervisor.

If the flight control hydraulic seals and packings wore out, the hydraulic system would lose pressure and the pilots would lose control over the helicopter, he added.

"So it is critical these parts be replaced not only during the phasing, but on a regular basis,"



Photo by Pfc. Matthew Acosta
An Army Ch-47 D Chinook is receiving a thorough powerwashing by Pfc. Robert Koch, helicopter powertrain mechanic.

Zimmer said.

The Afghan dust will be pressure-washed away, prior to the crew reassembling the aircraft.

"There's no sense in assembling a dirty aircraft," said Spc. Marquish Seabon, helicopter power-train mechanic. "Here in the desert, the helicopter gets five times dirtier than usual. The dirt needs to be removed. It's part of the normal aircraft's maintenance routine."

Because of the environment and the missions of the Chinooks, the maintenance crews will constantly work on aircraft after aircraft.

"Normally it takes a few months for the helicopters to accumulate 200 hours," said Rodonez. "But here in a combat zone, it's more like half that time."

There will always be at least one or two aircraft in the phasing state, while the unit is here, be-

cause of the frequency of the missions they go on, said Eaton.

The unit will provide support for the entire duration of the proposed six-month rotation, while the rest of the 3rd Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) returns home.

"We're just getting here, and the rest of the division is returning home," said Curry. "It takes a lot of work to keep one of these (Chinooks) flying. We've got a lot of work to keep us busy."

He added, "As I see it, we're all on the same team. It doesn't matter who we support, and we will do the best we can to maintain reliable aircraft for however long we stay here."

As long as the 82nd Airborne Division needs them, the CH-47 D Chinooks, flight crews and maintenance teams from Fort Campbell will support the division in Operation Enduring Freedom.

Part 2 — Prohibited activities for U.S. DOD personnel within USCENCOM AOR

This General Order is applicable to all United States military personnel, and to civilians serving with, employed by, or accompanying the Armed Forces of the United States, while present in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

❖ Introduction, purchase, possession, use, sale, transfer, manufacture or consumption of any controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia. Prescription drugs must be accompanied by the original prescription label of the prescribing medical facility or authority.

❖ Introduction, possession, transfer, sale, creation or display of any pornographic or sexually explicit photograph, video tapes, movie, drawing, book, magazine or similar representations. The prohibitions contained in this subparagraph shall not apply to Armed Forces Radio/Television Station broadcasts and commercial videotapes distributed and/or displayed through Army/Air Force Exchange Service or Morale, Welfare and Recreation outlets located within the USCENCOM AOR. This prohibition shall also not apply within the areas exclusively under the jurisdiction of the United States, such as aboard United States Government vessels and aircraft.

Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this General Order are punitive. Persons subject to the UCMJ may be punished there under. Civilians serving with, employed by, or accompanying the Armed Forces of the United States in the USCENCOM AOR may face criminal prosecution or adverse administrative action for violation of this General Order.

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streak, slipped 132.99 to 8,409.49. The Standard & Poor's 500 index ended down 24.48 to 881.56.

Spain seizes 4th al Qaeda suspect

MADRID, Spain — A fourth suspected al Qaeda member has been arrested in an operation against a Spanish-based network that may have been involved in the Sept. 11 attacks. The Syrian-born Spanish citizen seized in Madrid is a member of an al Qaeda cell and an associate of one of three men, arrested on Tuesday, who possessed videotapes of U.S. landmarks, Spanish police say.

Schroeder sacks defense minister

BERLIN, Germany — German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder has sacked his beleaguered Defense Minister Rudolf Scharping — just 10 weeks before elections. In a brief statement, Schroeder said “there is no longer a basis for working together in government” and announced Social Democrats parliamentary group leader Peter Struck as replacement.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
<u>Bagram:</u>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 100F L: 66F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 100F L: 68F
<u>Khandahar:</u>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 111F L: 72F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 106F L: 72F
<u>Kabul:</u>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 99F L: 66F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 97F L: 68F
<u>Uzbekistan:</u>	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 102F L: 80F	<i>Clear</i> H: 95F L: 72F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

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COALITION SPORTSZONE

The Day in Sports

Gridlock at Muirfield

Ernie Els threatened to take command of the British Open with a 29 on the front side before settling for a share of the lead with four others in the biggest logjam at the halfway point of a major in 30 years. Els, Shigeki Maruyama, Padraig Harrington, Duffy Waldorf and Bob Tway ended at 6-under. Tiger Woods enhanced his hopes for a Grand Slam with a bogey-free 68 to lurk two shots back, and Colin Montgomerie's 7-under 64 put him within two shots of the lead. (*Yahoo!Sports*)

Armstrong p toward fourth straight Tour title

PLATEAU DE BEILLE, France (AP) — Lance Armstrong was so far ahead and so relaxed after a grueling final climb Friday that he even had time to zip up the bright yellow jersey worn by the leader of the Tour de France. A fourth straight title now seems almost as easy to secure.

He will have another chance to prove it when the race heads to Mont Ventoux in the southern Vaucluse region on Sunday. The toughest stage of the Tour will probably be Wednesday's 16th leg from Les Deux Alpes to La Plagne. It features three exceptionally difficult climbs, including the ascent to the finish. The two remaining mountain stages are less grueling than Mont Ventoux or La Plagne.

Aussie breaks own record

Grant Hackett of Australia broke his own 400-meter freestyle short-course world record Thursday at a grand prix swim meet at the Sydney Aquatic Center.

Hackett finished in 3 minutes, 34.58 seconds to eclipse his previous mark of 3:35.01, set in Hong Kong in April 1999. It was the 11th individual world record set by Hackett.

Olympic and world champion Ian Thorpe was beaten - but in the backstroke, not one of his signature events. Matt Welsh, the world champion in the 100 backstroke, won the 50 backstroke in 24.53, with Thorpe next in 25.24. (*The Associated Press*)

Santini gets France post

PARIS (Reuters) — Jacques Santini was named France coach on Friday, succeeding Roger Lemerre who was sacked after the World Cup defending champions' first round exit last month. The 50-year old Santini steered Olympique Lyon to their first ever French league title last season. His appointment was announced by French Football Federation president Claude Simonet at the end of a FFF council meeting in Paris.

The first task for the new national coach will be to qualify holders France for the 2004 European championship finals in Portugal. They will start with an away game in Cyprus on September 7 after warming up in a friendly match in Tunisia on August 21. Slovenia, Israel and Malta are also in France's European qualifying group.

France sacked Lemerre two weeks ago after his strongly-fancied side failed to win a match or score a goal in the World Cup finals in South Korea and Japan last month. After adding the Euro 2000 and the 2001 Confederations Cup titles to their credits under Lemerre, the 1998 world champions left for South Korea and Japan as tournament favorites. But France suffered the humiliation of becoming the first holders to be knocked out of the World Cup in the first round of the finals for 36 years. They finished bottom of group A after failing to score a single goal in three games and gathering just one point. They suffered a shock 1-0 loss in the opening game to newcomers Senegal, were held 0-0 by Uruguay and lost 2-0 to Denmark.

Lemerre refused to resign and Simonet, who did not want to turn him into a scapegoat, waited for 24 days after the defeat to Denmark before sacking him on July 5.

2002 Major League standings

American League East		GB
N.Y. Yankees	60-36 .625	-
Boston	57-37 .606	2
Baltimore	46-48.489	13
American League Central		GB
Minnesota	57-41 .582	-
Chicago (AL)	45-53 .459	12
Cleveland	42-53 .442	13.5
American League West		GB
Seattle	60-36 .625	-
Anaheim	55-39 .585	4
Oakland	56-40 .583	4
National League East		GB
Atlanta	61-35 .635	-
Montreal	49-47 .510	12
N.Y. Mets	49-47 .510	12
National League Central		GB
St. Louis	52-41 .559	-
Cincinnati	50-46 .521	3.5
Houston	46-49 .484	7
National League West		GB
Arizona	56-39 .589	-
Los Angeles	55-41 .573	1.5
San Francisco	54-41 .568	2

Friday's results

Chicago Cubs 5-0 Houston
 Baltimore 13-4 Chicago Sox
 Minnesota 5-1 Detroit
 Boston 4-2 NY Yankees
 Toronto 11-8 Tampa Bay
 Atlanta 4-1 Philadelphia
 Pittsburgh 12-9 St. Louis
 Florida 4-2 Montreal
 NY Mets 4-2 Cincinnati
 Kansas City 8-5 Cleveland
 Colorado 9-5 Milwaukee
 Anaheim 15-3 Seattle
 Oakland 10-0 Texas
 San Diego 6-1 Arizona
 San Francisco 2-2 Los Angeles, bottom of the 11th

Today's games

Boston at NY Yankees
 Houston at Chicago Cubs
 Atlanta at Philadelphia
 Tampa Bay at Toronto
 San Francisco at Los Angeles
 Cleveland at Kansas City
 Chicago Sox at Baltimore
 Minnesota at Detroit
 St. Louis at Pittsburgh
 Montreal at Florida
 NY Mets at Cincinnati
 Milwaukee at Colorado
 Cleveland at Kansas City
 Texas at Oakland
 Seattle at Anaheim
 Arizona at San Diego